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Krasnic, Bernard

From: marcrossi@rkmlegalgroup.com
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2009 12:15 PM
To: Krasnic, Bernard
Subject: U.S. Serial No. 10/712,657
Attachments: KODA-381-Proposed-Amendment.doc

Dear Examiner Krasnic:

Per our telephone conversation, I am attaching a proposed amendment in order to amend claim 1 to state that the claimed steps are performed by a computing device. In addition, I would like to rewrite claim 5 in independent form. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

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Proposed Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for scene classification of a digital image comprising the steps of:

(a) extracting one or more pre-determined camera metadata tags from the digital image;

(b) generating an estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) the extracted camera metadata tags and not (2) image content features using a first data processing path, thereby providing a metadata-based estimate based only on the extracted camera metadata tags or generating a metadata null estimate;

(c) generating, separately from the metadata-based estimate, another estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) image content features and not (2) the extracted camera metadata tags using a second data processing path separate from the first data processing path, thereby providing an image content-based estimate based only the image content features or generating a content-based null estimate; and

(d) producing a final integrated estimate of image class of the digital image using a Bayesian network based on a combination of 1) the metadata-based estimate and the image content-based estimate, 2) the metadata-based estimate and the image-based null estimate, or 3) the image content-based estimate and the metadata null estimate~~, wherein the final integrated estimate of image class in step (d) is obtained by using a Bayesian network~~;

wherein steps (b), (c) and (d) are each implemented using a computing device.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the metadata extracted in step (a) includes one or more of exposure time, aperture, shutter speed, brightness value, subject distance and flash fired.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the image content features in step (c) include one or more of color, texture and semantic features.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to implement ~~the method as claimed in claim 1~~. a method for scene classification of a digital image comprising the steps of:

(a) extracting one or more pre-determined camera metadata tags from the digital image;

(b) generating an estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) the extracted camera metadata tags and not (2) image content features using a first data processing path, thereby providing a metadata-based estimate based only on the extracted camera metadata tags or generating a metadata null estimate;

(c) generating, separately from the metadata-based estimate, another estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) image content features and not (2) the extracted camera metadata tags using a second data processing path separate from the first data processing path, thereby providing an image content-based estimate based only the image content features or generating a content-based null estimate; and

(d) producing a final integrated estimate of image class of the digital image using a Bayesian network based on a combination of 1) the metadata-based estimate and the image content-based estimate, 2) the metadata-based estimate and the image-based null estimate, or 3) the image content-based estimate and the metadata null estimate.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a customized image enhancement procedure to the digital image in response to the final estimate of image class of the digital image.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the customized image enhancement procedure is color balancing and the customized image enhancement procedure includes retaining or boosting brilliant

colors in images classified as sunset scenes and removing warm-colored cast from indoor images classified as tungsten-illuminated scenes.